



## *Chapter 8* **Job Centers**

### **Cluster 4 Asset Profile**

#### **Primary Employment /Job Center Issues**

The major issue of concern in Cluster 4 relating to Job Centers is the difficulty of “growing” businesses within the community. The feeling is that most entrepreneurial efforts will fail if proper preparations are not made. Additionally, it is felt that the community requires a certain blend of businesses that are supportive and compatible with not only the community at large but with each other.

The need for youth and young adult education and training is seen as being able to be provided within the community. Another major concern is pre-employment counseling. Many persons who are trained have difficulty in securing employment because they are unfamiliar with employer requirements and they have no track record. A strongly supported suggestion to alleviate this problem was the institution of co-op programs that would familiarize persons with employment requirements. Mentoring and compact programs within the schools were also seen as important.

#### **Potential Changes**

Within Cluster 4 there are a number of ongoing and potential developments that will provide future job centers. The most evident of these are the construction of baseball and football stadiums and three major gambling casinos. The move of General Motors to the Renaissance Center in the Central Business District from the New Center area is expected to have a dramatic impact on the economic base of the city. Additionally, Wayne State University, the Detroit Medical Center and Henry Ford Health Systems will undoubtedly continue to grow and change as they maintain their leadership in their respective fields. It is also felt that industrial expansion at American Axle and in Highland Park will continue to provide employment opportunities to area residents. Focus groups identified additional potential job center locations and are indicated on the following map (A18).

**Labor force**

The amount and type of employment within the Cluster is profiled as follows:

	Cluster 4 Number	Cluster 4 %	Detroit Total Number	Detroit Total %
Agriculture	20	-	307	-
Manufacturing	22634	14	57200	18
Trans./Comm./Utilities	17847	11	24571	8
Wholesale Trade	4253	3	14032	4
Retail Trade	8145	5	29750	10
Fin./Ins./Real Estate	16908	10	19319	6
Services	69345	43	136922	44
Public Administration	23289	14	30981	10

**Existing Job Centers**

The major employers and employment centers within Cluster 4 are General Motors, Wayne State University, the Detroit Medical Center, Henry Ford Health System, Ameritech, Detroit Edison, MichCon, ANR, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Comerica, NBD Bank, The Detroit News, The Detroit Free Press, Little Ceasars, Stroh Brewery, the Detroit Board of Education, Government, and the Eastern Market. The area is also the location for a large number of educational and training facilities. The following is a profile of establishments by industry.

	Cluster 4 Number	Cluster 4 %	Detroit Total Number	Detroit Total %
Agriculture	7	-	78	1
Manufacturing	189	7	931	9
Trans./Comm./Utilities	112	4	378	4
Wholesale Trade	228	8	934	9
Retail Trade	595	21	2945	29
Fin./Ins./Real Estate	354	12	649	6
Services	1241	43	3819	38
Public Administration	135	5	312	3

**Education and Training Programs**

Cluster 4 is the location of the largest concentration of educational and training facilities in the region. The area contains the highest quality educational facilities for levels K through 12 in the city. Additionally, institutions of higher learning such as Wayne State University, the Center for Creative Studies, Wayne County Community College, Henry Ford Hospital, and the University of Detroit Law

School are present. Due to the high concentration of job centers in Cluster 4, 33% of City of Detroit trained persons placed in Detroit are placed in Cluster 4.

### **New Job Centers**

As stated previously, the construction of the new stadiums and casinos are expected to generate a large number of job opportunities both during construction and permanently. The move of General Motors is also expected to result in the consolidation of jobs from other locations in the state to downtown Detroit.

### **Major Employment Facilities**

Major employment facilities are detailed above under existing job centers. These facilities are primarily located in the central business district, the east riverfront, the university/cultural/medical district and the New Center area.

### **Substandard Buildings**

There are districts within Cluster 4 where a number of substandard buildings exist. These are located in areas that have depopulated over time, such as portions of the Cass Corridor and the PATH (formerly Briggs) Community. Also, a number of former industrial structures in the area east of Woodward, between I-94 and Grand Boulevard, are in an advanced state of deterioration. A number of these buildings are either on the National Register of Historic Places or are of a historic quality and therefore need to be examined for the feasibility of rehabilitation.

### **Increased Training**

Training is very important to the community as training and job readiness is required to secure adequately paying employment. There is also a feeling that the flow of information about the availability of training and employment needs to be greatly improved. Local employers need to participate in creating an efficient means of communicating with potential employees for the community.